

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) Method for controlling a drink preparation machine ~~[[(1)]]~~ for preparing a multiple number of different drink units on a hot-water basis, the method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

withdrawing ~~the~~ hot water for the multiple number of different drink units from ~~the same~~ a common hot water source ~~[[(8)]]~~,

monitoring the performance status of the hot water source ~~[[(8)]]~~, and

controlling the hot water withdrawal by ~~in such a way that~~

enabling the hot water withdrawal ~~is released~~ for all of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined full performance status of the hot water source ~~(I)~~,

blocking the hot water withdrawal ~~is blocked~~ for all of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined zero performance status of the hot water source and,

blocking the hot water withdrawal ~~at a predetermined partial performance status (II), is blocked for certain~~ for a first number of predetermined drink units of the multiple number of different drink units and ~~released~~ enabling the hot water withdrawal for ~~other~~ a second number of predetermined drink units of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined partial performance status of the hot water source.

2. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~each~~ performance status is limited by a threshold value (S), and blocking the hot water withdrawal for the first number of predetermined drink units occurs if the performance status falls below a this threshold value is fallen below.

3. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the full performance status ~~(I) is formed as~~ comprises a performance range.

4. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 3, wherein the partial performance status $[(II)]$ comprises at least one performance range (H_1, H_2) .

5. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, ~~and~~ further comprising establishing a performance withdrawal value for each of the multiple number of different drink units ~~drink unit~~, and deducting this performance withdrawal value from the current performance status with each withdrawal.

6. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, ~~and~~ further comprising heating up the hot water synchronously with the withdrawal.

7. (New) Method according to Claim 1, further comprising determining the performance status of the hot water source prior to controlling the hot water withdrawal.

8. (New) Method according to Claim 7, wherein determining the performance status of the hot water source comprises determining a level of the water in a boiler.

9. (New) Method according to Claim 7, wherein determining the performance status of the hot water source comprises determining the temperature of the water in the hot water source.